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SUNDAY:	MONDAY:	TUESDAY:	WEDNESDAY:	THURSDAY:	FRIDAY:	SATURDAY:
MARRYBELL MADURO	ANDERSON BAHAMON	JEAN PAUL	MAILLEYN ALVARADO	MARRYBELL MADURO	MAILLEYN ALVARADO	RICKY THOMAS
SINGER	SINGER	SAXOPHONIST	VIOLINIST	SINGER	VIOLINIST	GUITAR
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.	6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.	6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.	6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.	6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.	7:00 TO 9:00 P.M.	6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

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Why Bernice King sees MLK Day as a 'saving grace' in today's political climate

Bernice King speaks during an interview, Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2026, in Atlanta.

Associated Press

By KATE BRUMBACK
Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Against a backdrop of political division and upheaval, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s daughter said the holiday honoring her father's legacy comes as "somewhat of a saving grace" this year.

"I say that because it inserts a sense of sanity and morality into our very troubling climate right now," the Rev. Bernice King said in an interview with The Associated Press. "With everything going on, the one thing that I think Dr. King reminds people of is hope and the ability to challenge injustice and inhumanity." The holiday comes as President Donald Trump is about to mark the first anniversary of his second term in office on Tuesday. The "three evils" — poverty, racism and militarism — that the civil rights leader identified in a 1967 speech as threats to a democratic society "are very present and manifesting through a lot of what's happening" under Trump's leadership, Bernice King said.

King, CEO of the King Center in Atlanta, cited efforts to roll back diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives; directives to scrub key parts of history from government websites and remove "improper ideology" from Smithsonian museums; and immigration enforcement operations in multiple cities that have turned violent and resulted in the separation of families.

"Everything President Trump does is in the best interest of the American people," White House spokesperson Davis Ingle said in an email. "That includes rolling back harmful DEI agendas, deporting dangerous criminal illegal aliens from American communities, or ensuring we are being honest about our country's great history."

Maya Wiley, president and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, one of the nation's oldest and largest civil rights coalitions, said King's words "ring more true today."

"We're at a period in our history where we literally have a regime actively working to erase the Civil Rights movement," she said. "This has been an administration dismantling intentionally and with ideological fervor every advancement we have made since the Civil War."

Wiley also recalled that King warned that "the prospect of war abroad was undermining to the beloved community globally and it was taking away from the ability for us to take care of all our people."

Trump's administration has engaged in military strikes on alleged drug-smuggling boats and captured Venezuela's president in a surprise raid earlier this month.

Bernice King said she's not sure what her father would make of the United States today, nearly six decades after his assassination.

Nonviolence should be embraced not just by those who are protesting and fighting against what they believe are injustices, but should also be adopted by immigration agents and other law enforcement officers, she said.

To that end, she added, the King Center previously developed a curriculum that it now plans to redevelop to help officers see that they can carry out their duties while also respecting people's humanity.

Even amid the "troubling climate" in the country right now, Bernice King said there is no question that "we have made so much progress as a nation." The civil rights movement that her parents helped lead brought more people into mainstream politics who have sensitivity and compassion, she said.

Despite efforts to scrap DEI initiatives and the deportation of people from around the world, "the inevitability is we're so far into our diversity you can't put that back in a box," she said.

To honor her father's legacy this year, she urged people to look inward.

"I think we spend a lot of time looking at everybody else and what everybody else is not doing or doing, and we're looking out the window at all the problems of the world and talking about how bad they are and we don't spend a lot of time on ourselves personally," she said.

King endorsed participation in service projects to observe the holiday because they foster connection, sensitize people to the struggles of others and help us to understand each other better. But she said people should also look at what they can do in the year to come to further her father's teachings.❑

Why U.S. cities are reverting 1-way streets back to their original 2-way design

By JEFF McMURRAY
Associated Press

Excessive speeding was so common on parallel one-way streets passing a massive electronics plant that Indianapolis residents used to refer to the pair as a "racetrack" akin to the city's famous Motor Speedway a few miles west.

Originally two-way thoroughfares, Michigan and New York streets switched to opposite one-way routes in the 1970s to help thousands of RCA workers swiftly travel to and from their shifts building televisions or pressing vinyl records. But after the RCA plant closed in 1995, the suddenly barren roads grew even more enticing for lead-footed drivers — until last year, when city officials finally converted them back to two-way streets.

"The opening and conversion of those streets has just been transformative for how people think about that corridor," said James Taylor, who runs a nearby community center.

Embracing the oft-repeated slogan that "paint is cheap," transportation planners across the U.S. — particularly in midsize cities — have been turning their unidirectional streets back to multidirectional ones. They view the step as one of the easiest ways to improve safety and make downtowns more alluring to shoppers, restaurant patrons and would-be residents.

Cars make their way onto the recently converted two-way portion of Michigan Street in Indianapolis, Thursday, Jan. 15, 2026.

Associated Press

A street design U-turn

Dave Amos, an assistant professor of city and regional planning at California Polytechnic State University, said almost no major streets in the U.S. originated as one-way routes. Two-way streets were the standard, before mass migration to the suburbs prioritized faster commutes over downtown walkability.

"One-way streets are designed for moving cars quickly and efficiently," Amos said. "So when you have that as your goal, pedestrians and cyclists almost by design are secondary, which makes them more vulnerable."

But the propensity to speed isn't the only reason one-way streets are viewed as less safe.

Wade Walker, an engineer with Kittelson & Associates who has worked on street conversion projects in Lakeland, Florida; Lynchburg, Virginia; and Chattanooga, Tennessee, said there is a misperception that one-way streets are safer because people on foot only have to look one direction to see the incoming traffic. The confusion arises when one-way streets combine with two-way streets to form a city grid, he said.

Pedestrians crossing a signalized intersection of two-way streets can expect to encounter vehicles in a certain sequence: those turning left on green, traveling straight, and turning right on red. But when one-way streets are included, there are 16 potential sequences depending on the type and direction of the roads that intersect, Walker said.

"It's not the number of conflicts, it's the way those conflicts occur," he said.

One way to divide a community

Louisville, Kentucky, about two hours south of Indianapolis, has been restoring one-way streets to their original two-way footprints. The state is leading an ongoing project to reconvert a stretch along Main Street that passes such landmarks as the Louisville Slugger Museum, the KFC Yum! Center arena, and a minor-league baseball stadium.

One of the city's biggest redesigns is happening this year in the predominantly Black western part of the city, where many roads changed to one-way routes in the 1970s to feed a new interstate bridge over the Ohio River. However, it decimated neighborhoods and cut off the once-thriving community from downtown.

"All those mom-and-pop shops and local businesses over time kind of faded because that connectivity got taken away," said Michael King, the city's assistant director of transportation planning. "It just feels more like, 'This is a road to get me through here pretty quickly.'"

Within three years after some of Chattanooga's two-way streets were transformed into unidirectional ones, business vacancies skyrocketed and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga became "landlocked" to prevent students from having to cross a dangerous road, Walker said.

In 2022, almost two decades after the road was redesigned, he returned to find the college campus had expanded across it and business construction had surged.❑

Vance and Rubio set to attend Winter Olympics opening ceremony in Italy. Trump isn't on the list

ROME, Italy (AP) — U.S. Vice President JD Vance will lead an American delegation to the 2026 Winter Olympics in Italy and attend the opening ceremony, the White House said Saturday.

Vance will be joined by U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio, second lady Usha Vance, U.S. Ambassador Tilman Fertitta and a group of Olympic gold medalists, the White House said in a statement.

The Milan Cortina Games kick off on Feb. 6. The opening ceremony's Parade of Nations will feature athletes led by the national flagbearers not only in Milan'sSan Siro stadium, which will be packed with 60,000 spectators, but also, for the first time in Olympic history, in three other locations: the mountain venues of Cortina, Predazzo and Livigno.

U.S. President Donald Trump isn't on the list of members of the delegation.

The athletes in the Olympic delegation include Jocelyne Lamoureux-Davidson and Monique Lamoureux-Morando, twin sisters who were members of the ice hockey team that won in 2018. Figure skater Evan Lysacek and Apolo Ohno, who won gold twice in short track speed skating, will also join.❑

President Donald Trump speaks during a meeting with oil executives in the East Room of the White House, Friday, Jan. 9, 2026, in Washington, as Vice President JD Vance and Secretary of State Marco Rubio listen.

Associated Press

Mother of Elon Musk's child sues his AI company over sexual deepfake images created by Grok

By DAVE COLLINS
Associated Press

The mother of one of Elon Musk's children is suing his AI company, saying its Grok chatbot allowed users to generate sexually exploitive deepfake images of her that have caused her humiliation and emotional distress.

Ashley St. Clair, 27, who describes herself as a writer and political strategist, alleges in a lawsuit filed Thursday in New York City against xAI that the images have included a photo of her fully dressed at age 14 that was altered to show her in a bikini, and others showing her as an adult in sexualized positions and wearing a bikini with swastikas. St. Clair is Jewish. Grok is on Musk's social media platform X.

Lawyers for xAI did not immediately return emails seeking comment Friday. On Wednesday, following global backlash over sexualized images of women and children, X announced that Grok would no longer be able to edit photos to portray real people in revealing clothing, in places where that is illegal.

Asked about the lawsuit and its allegations, xAI replied only "Legacy Media Lies" in an email to The Associated Press. St. Clair said she reported the deepfakes to X after they began appearing last year and asked that they be removed. She said the platform first replied that the images did not violate its policies. Then it promised to not allow images of her to be used or altered without her consent, she said.

Elon Musk attends a memorial for conservative activist Charlie Kirk, Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025, at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Ariz.

Associated Press

St. Clair said the social platform then retaliated against her by removing her premium X subscription and verification checkmark, not allowing her to make money from her account, which has 1 million followers, and continuing to allow degrading fake images of her.

"I have suffered and continue to suffer serious pain and mental distress as a result of xAI's role in creating and distributing these digitally altered images of me," she said in a document attached to the lawsuit. "I am humiliated and feel like this nightmare will never stop so long as Grok continues to generate these images of me." She also said she lives in fear of the people who view the deepfakes of her.

St. Clair is the mother of Musk's 16-month-old son, Romulus. She lives in New York City, where she filed the lawsuit in state Supreme Court. She is seeking an undisclosed amount of damages for alleged infliction of emotional distress and other claims, as well as court orders immediately barring xAI from allowing more deepfakes of her.

Later Thursday, lawyers for xAI transferred the lawsuit to federal court in Manhattan, asking a judge to hear the case there. And the same day, xAI also countersued St. Clair in federal court in the Northern District of Texas, alleging she violated the terms of her xAI user agreement that requires lawsuits against the company be filed in federal court in Texas. It is seeking an undisclosed money judgment against her.

X is based in Texas, where Musk owns a home and his electric automaker Tesla in headquartered in Austin.

Carrie Goldberg, a lawyer for St. Clair, called the countersuit a "jolting" move that she had never seen by a defendant before.

"Ms. St. Clair will be vigorously defending her forum in New York," Goldberg said in a statement. "But frankly, any jurisdiction will recognize the gravamen of Ms. St. Clair's claims — that by manufacturing nonconsensual sexually explicit images of girls and women, xAI is a public nuisance and a not reasonably safe product."

In its announcement on Wednesday, X said it was implementing other safeguards on Grok including limiting image creation and editing to paid accounts, which it said would improve accountability. It said it had zero tolerance for child sexual exploitation, nonconsensual nudity and unwanted sexual content, and it would immediately remove such content and report accounts involved in child sex abuse materials to law enforcement.❑

A rare snow is seen in Holt, Florida, on Sunday, Jan. 18, 2026.
Associated Press

Small part of Sunshine State becomes Snowy State as Florida gets snow second year in a row

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP) — A small part of Florida is the Snowy State for the second year in a row.

Snow briefly covered the grass and rooftops in parts of the western Florida Panhandle on Sunday morning as just enough frigid air rushed in behind a cold front to turn the last rain showers into snowflakes in the Sunshine State.

Elsewhere, the winter weather promised to interfere with playoff football in places — Boston and Chicago — more accustomed to it, although the visiting teams come from warmer climes. And in the upper Midwest, residents braced for blizzard conditions.

The southern snow wasn't a once-in-a-lifetime thing. Less than a year ago, on Jan. 21, 2025, some of the same areas of Florida that briefly saw frosty lawns received up to 8 inches (20 centimeters) of snow in what was the most significant snowfall in many places since the late 1800s. Snow photos flooded social media. There were a few flakes on the beach and snow nestled into palm fronds. It was too warm to stick to the roads, but a dusting of snow sat on the grass for a little while before mostly melting.

The rare snow in the South wasn't just in Florida. Southeastern Alabama and southern Georgia also reported snow in areas that also got to celebrate a second winter wonderland in less than a year. Snow covered the ground in Columbus and Macon, Georgia, and officials warned enough might fall to make travel treacherous. Heavier snowfall was expected to hit New England. Three to five inches (7.6 to 12.7 centimeters) of snow was predicted for this afternoon and tonight in Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts, where the New England Patriots were hosting the Houston Texans. Those in the Boston area could expect "wet and heavy" snow showers, said National Weather Service meteorologist Kyle Pederson, although the heaviest snowfall isn't expected until 7 p.m., long after the game's 2 p.m. kickoff.

"There's a low-pressure system passing offshore and it's close enough to bring us some snow, but far enough away not to be a major hit," Pederson said. ❑

Social media platforms removed 4.7 million accounts after Australia banned them for children

By CHARLOTTE GRAHAM-McLAY
Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — Social media companies have revoked access to about 4.7 million accounts identified as belonging to children in Australia since the country banned use of the platforms by those under 16, officials said.

"We stared down everybody who said it couldn't be done, some of the most powerful and rich companies in the world and their supporters," communications minister Anika Wells told reporters on Friday. "Now Australian parents can be confident that their kids can have their childhoods back."

The figures, reported to Australia's government by 10 social media platforms, were the first to show the scale of the landmark ban since it was enacted in December over fears about the effects of harmful online environments on young people. The law provoked fraught debates in Australia about technology use, privacy, child safety and mental health and has prompted other countries to consider similar measures.

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, left, and Australian Communications Minister Anika Wells speak to the media during a visit to St John Paul II College in Canberra, Australia, on Dec. 11, 2025.

Associated Press

Officials said the figure was encouraging

Under Australian law, Facebook, Instagram, Kick, Reddit, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, X, YouTube and Twitch face fines of up to 49.5 million Australian dollars ($33.2 million) if they fail to take reasonable steps to remove the accounts of Australian children younger than 16. Messaging services such as WhatsApp and Facebook Messenger are exempt.

To verify age, platforms can either request copies of identification documents, use a third party to apply age estimation technology to an account holder's face, or make inferences from data already available such has how long an account has been held.

About 2.5 million Australians are aged between 8 and 15, said the country's eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant, and past estimates suggested 84% of 8- to 12-year-olds held social media accounts. It was not known how many accounts were held across the 10 platforms but Inman Grant said the figure of 4.7 million "deactivated or restricted" was encouraging.

"We're preventing predatory social media companies from accessing our children," Inman Grant said.

The 10 biggest companies covered by the ban were compliant with it and had reported removal figures to Australia's regulator on time, the commissioner said. She added that social media companies were expected to shift their efforts from enforcing the ban to preventing children from creating new accounts or otherwise circumventing the prohibition.

Meta removed 550,000 accounts

Australian officials didn't break the figures down by platform. But Meta, which owns Facebook, Instagram and Threads, said this week that by the day after the ban came into effect it had removed nearly 550,000 accounts belonging to users understood to be under 16. In the blog post divulging the figures, Meta criticized the ban and said smaller platforms where the ban doesn't apply might not prioritize safety. The company also noted browsing platforms would still present content to children based on algorithms — a concern that led to the ban's enactment.❑

Sri Lanka unveils a rare purple star sapphire claimed to be the biggest of its kind

By BHARATHA MALLAWARACHI
Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — A Purple Star Sapphire weighing 3,563 carats which is claimed to be the world's biggest of its kind was unveiled on Saturday in the Sri Lankan capital by the owners, who are ready to sell the precious stone which is estimated to be worth at least $300 million.

The round shaped gem named "Star of Pure Land" is the world's largest documented natural purple star sapphire, said Ashan Amarasinghe, a consultant gemologist.

"This is the largest purple star sapphire of its kind," he told the media, adding that the gem "shows a well-defined asterism. It has six rays asterism. That's something special out of all the other stones."

The gem, which has been polished, is owned by the Star of Pure Land Team, who want to remain anonymous for security reasons.

One of the owners said the gem was found in a gem pit near the remote Sri Lankan town of Rathnapura, known as the "city of gems," in 2023. It was purchased together with other gems in 2023 and about two years later, the owners found that it was a special stone. They then got it certified by two laboratories.

Amarasinghe said the value of the stone has been estimated at $300 million to $400 million by international valuers. Sri Lankan sapphires are renowned for their unique color, clarity and shimmer.❑

The world's largest purple star sapphire, claimed to be the largest of its kind, is placed on display at a ceremony in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026.

Associated Press

Horses leap through flames and pets go to church in Spanish animal rituals honoring St Anthony

By IAIN SULLIVAN and SUMAN NAISHADHAM
Associated Press

SAN BARTOLOME DE PINARES, Spain (AP) — Hundreds of Spaniards watched horses gallop through towering flames, hours before pet owners in Madrid on Saturday took their dogs and cats to church to be blessed with holy water.

The contrasting Spanish traditions take place every January to honor St. Anthony the Abbott, the patron saint of domestic animals. And despite criticism from animal rights groups, the horse-and-fire spectacle draws loyal crowds ever year.

Las Luminarias is a centuries-old tradition that takes place in the Spanish village of San Bartolomé de Pinares — population 500 — about 100 kilometers (60 miles) outside Madrid. Riders guide horses through bonfires in the middle of the street in an act believed to purify the animals in the coming year. "In the old days, it was held because it was believed that the branches and the smoke blessed the horses and donkeys, which were used for farming, as a form of healing to prevent them from getting sick and to ensure they continued working in the fields," said attendee Antonio Patricio, 62.

A man rides a horse through a bonfire as part of a ritual in honor of Saint Anthony the Abbot, the patron saint of domestic animals, in San Bartolome de Pinares, Spain, Friday, Jan. 16, 2026.
Associated Press

Festivities started around nightfall Friday as giant stacks of tree branches are placed on the side of the street, while locals mull about sharing wine, beer and sweets. Hours later, the stacks are lit and become the menacing fires that the animals must jump through — or around.

Animal rights groups have long criticized Las Luminarias, but locals say the horses are rarely, if ever, injured.

The next morning, on St. Anthony's Day, pet owners in some churches across Spain take their furry companions to to be spritzed with holy water. That ritual blessing is also believed to bring the animals health and protection for the year.

Pet owners waited patiently Saturday outside the entrance of St. Anthony's church in central Madrid, where Catholic priests blessed the passing animals. Many of the dogs were wrapped in winter vests, while the cats looked a little more bewildered.

"I'm happy to be able to do it," Madrid resident Rosa Gómez said, holding up her pointy-eared dog Kia. "She is a little dog that was given to us six years ago by a family that couldn't take care of her, so we adopted her, and since then she has kept us great company."

Hours before the start of Las Luminarias, riders wrap their horses' tails in fire-resistant tape and braid their manes. Some apply a glaze on the animals' mane to prevent them from burning as they leap through the flames. Others beautify them, tightly braiding their manes, tying pink and red ribbons to their tails wrapped in tape, and adorning them with decorative headpieces. Livestock and farming were common livelihoods in San Bartolomé and scores of other central Spanish villages and towns that now stand empty for much of the year. Locals say Las Luminarias started after a mysterious illness swept through the village's animals centuries ago, after which people started to believe that smoke could purify and heal the horses. Going to Las Luminarias means returning home in the early hours the next day with clothes and hair that reek of smoke. In Spain's emptying countryside, locals welcome that the tradition brings family, friends and onlookers to the village for one night each year.❑

Journalists in Bangladesh demand protection amid rising attacks

Journalists, editors and owners of media outlets gather at a conference demanding protection after recent attacks on two major newspapers in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026.
Associated Press

By JULHAS ALAM
Associated Press

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Journalists, editors and owners of media outlets in Bangladesh on Saturday demanded that authorities protect them following recent attacks on two leading national dailies by mobs. They said the media industry in the South Asian country is being systematically targeted in the interim government headed by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Muhammad Yunus. They said the administration failed to prevent attacks on the Daily Star, the country's leading English-language daily, and the Prothom Alo, the largest Bengali-language newspaper, both based in Dhaka, the capital.

In December, angry mobs stormed the offices of the two newspapers and set fire to the buildings, trapping journalists and other staff inside, shortly after the death of a prominent Islamist activist.

The newspaper authorities blamed the authorities under the interim government for failing to adequately respond to the incidents despite repeated requests for help to disperse the mobs. Hours later, the trapped journalists who took shelter on the roof of the Daily Star newspaper were rescued. The buildings were looted. A leader of the Editors Council, an independent body of newspaper editors, was manhandled by the attackers when he arrived at the scene.

On the same day, liberal cultural centers were also attacked in Dhaka.

It was not clear why the protesters attacked the newspapers, whose editors are known to be closely connected with Yunus. Protests had been organized in recent months outside the offices of the dailies by Islamists who accused the newspapers of links with India.

On Saturday, the Editors Council and the Newspapers Owners Association of Bangladesh jointly organized a conference where editors, journalist union leaders and journalists from across the country demanded that the authorities uphold the free press amid rising tensions ahead of elections in February.

Nurul Kabir, President of the Editors Council, said attempts to silence media and democratic institutions reflect a dangerous pattern. Kabir, also the editor of the English-language New Age daily, said unity among journalists should be upheld to fight such a trend.

After the attacks on the two dailies in December, an expert of the United Nations said that mob attacks on leading media outlets and cultural centers in Bangladesh were deeply alarming and must be investigated promptly and effectively.❑

Aruba: Best Caribbean Island to Buy Real Estate

Overview
The Caribbean real estate market is witnessing an unprecedented boom, driven by its proximity to the US, Canada, and Europe, its laid-back lifestyle, and year-round sunshine. Whether you're considering a permanent relocation, seeking a holiday retreat, or eyeing a lucrative investment opportunity, there's an island in the Caribbean that perfectly suits your needs. However, choosing the best Caribbean island to buy real estate requires a deep dive and a thorough understanding of the markets.

Stability and growth are key when discussing Caribbean real estate. The region has consistently demonstrated resilience and upward property value trends, making it an attractive place for investment. Caribbean real estate offers not only a peaceful retreat but also the potential for significant appreciation and rental income.

It makes sense to consider investing in real estate with bond interest rates declining and the stock market at a historic high. Aruba real estate shows great promise when analyzed individually, due to its location outside the hurricane belt, its established infrastructure, and its international reputation as a high-end destination. We particularly favor prime locations, especially those with views of the Caribbean Sea.

Aruba meets all the criteria for investing in Caribbean real estate

1. Potential for Price Appreciation
Aruba's real estate is poised for significant growth, as its prices remain well below other comparable islands like the Bahamas, Barbados, Turks & Caicos, St. Martin, St. Kitts & Nevis, or Puerto Rico, and even South Florida.

There is a moratorium on new condominium developments and hotels, as the government is prioritizing environmental protection overgrowth and closely monitoring the island's carrying capacity. Aruba is aiming for quality over quantity, focusing on higher-income tourists. However, demand for oceanfront condos continues to rise. The potential for price appreciation is clear, with supply being constrained and demand high.

2. Flight Accessibility and Location
Aruba offers over 16 daily flights to and from the US and Canada, reaching 28 direct destinations, including Europe and Latin America. Plus, it offers the convenience of clearing US immigration before boarding return flights.

3. Economic and Political Stability
As part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Aruba benefits from a sound legal system and adherence to the rule of law.

4. Banking and Financing
Banking and financing processes for foreign investors are streamlined, with attractive mortgage loan rates available.

5. Safety and Security
An island's security measures and overall safety record can significantly affect real estate values. Aruba ranks No. 1 in this regard.

6. No Currency nor Capital Restrictions
The US dollar is widely used in Aruba, simplifying transactions for international investors. There's no need to worry about fluctuating exchange rates, as the Aruban Florin is pegged to the dollar, and there are no capital restrictions. You can forecast expenses and returns without the unpredictability of currency fluctuations.

7. Established Caribbean Markets
Exploring established Caribbean real estate markets is a wise starting point when diving into Caribbean real estate investing. These markets offer a mix of stability and luxury that attracts a steady flow of investors and tourists alike.

Don't miss out. The time to invest in Aruban real estate is now!❑

Father and Daughter Crowned at Tumba Festival!

(Oranjestad)—On Saturday night, the Tumba Festival took place at the Aruba Carnival & Entertainment Village in San Nicolas, where—for the first time in the history of the festival—the crown went to both a father and his daughter, marking a legacy for the Franken family.

The festival began on Friday night with the children's and youth participants. During the colorful evening, three different performances were presented, starting with Jaymerson Kelly and his song "Oloshi Cana Pami," which stood out as a favorite among the crowd in attendance. Alyna Henriquez, with her song "Nos Por," also caused a stir in the competition, and Hailey Cataleya Koolman delivered a sublime performance with "Ban Carg'e." Despite being a very small category, the audience greatly enjoyed the lineup.

In the Children's category, Jaymerson Kelly was crowned King of Tumba Kids 2026.

There was also the Teens category, in which several performances captured the audience's attention. Participants in this category included Caylee Pietersz with her song "Macutu Magico"; Jayvion Machado with "Amor"; Geovon Maduro with "Drecha mi pa mi bay"; Reanne Ras with "Mir'e Lastra Bin"; Ayshelyne Trimon with "Lastra Lastra"; Melody Franken with "Ban cu mi"; and Stephanie Quandt with her song "Ey mi ta bay." All were strong participants with tremendous performances. In this category, Melody Franken was crowned Queen of Tumba Teens 2026. This is Melody's second title; she was also Queen of Tumba Teens 2025.

After the festival concluded for the younger categories, it continued with the adult category, which featured six bands with their singers competing for the Tumba crown.❑

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Infini Launches New Menu 14 Following Its Five-Year Anniversary Celebration

Infini has officially launched Menu 14, a special edition menu unveiled in celebration of the restaurant's five-year anniversary. The new menu revisits guests' favorite dishes from the past five years, blending nostalgia with fresh interpretations inspired by Infini's signature approach to modern gastronomy.

Infini stands for limitless possibilities, and Menu 14 perfectly embodies that philosophy. Crafted by Chef Urvin Croes, the menu celebrates innovation, creativity, and fearless exploration. Known for pushing boundaries through storytelling, technique, and flavor, Chef Urvin continues to redefine Aruba's fine dining scene. Infini's immersive chef's table concept invites guests to interact directly with the culinary team, transforming each dish into a chapter of an evolving narrative.

Before opening Infini, Chef Urvin honed his craft in Aruba's most prestigious hotel restaurants, rising from apprentice cook to Sous Chef, and gaining international experience at the Michelin-rated Grand Hotel Karel V in Europe. His mission has always been to position Aruba as a leading culinary destination by reimagining local recipes with modern techniques and artistic precision.

Dedicated to supporting local farmers and producers, Chef Urvin incorporates homegrown ingredients that reflect the

island's rich food culture. His collaborations with these artisans are essential to Infini's distinctive culinary identity.

With numerous awards to his name—including being crowned the first-ever Iron Chef Aruba—Chef Urvin remains grounded in his passion, curiosity, and love for sharing Aruba's story through food.

Menu 14 invites diners to taste, explore, and rediscover Infini's journey while looking forward to the limitless possibilities ahead. Reservations are highly recommended to experience this new chapter in Infini's evolving culinary story.❑

Dining in? Try making some local favorites!

How to make "pan bati"

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever up for an Aruban snack, try making another Aruban classic appetizer called Pan Bati. Similar to a pancake both in appearance and cooking, this is a super easy meal that adults and children will both enjoy. Here's how to make it!

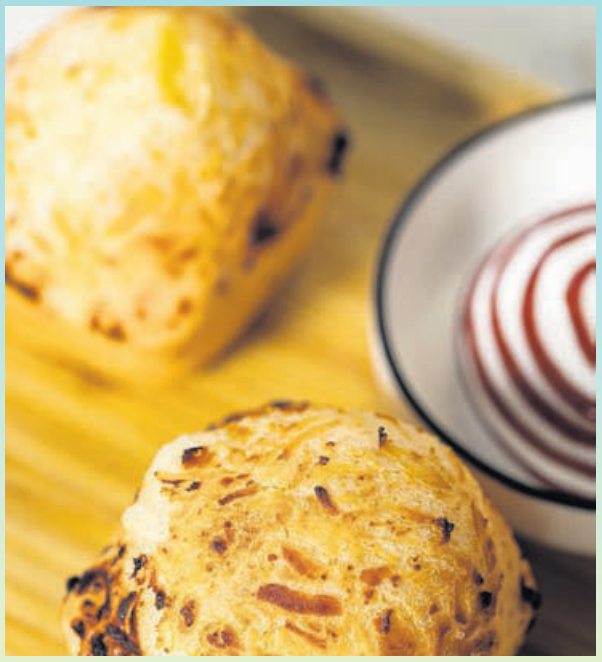
Ingredients:
2 cups of all purpose flour
1 cup grams of fine cornmeal
2 tbsp baking powder
1 1/3 cup of milk
1 pinch of salt
2 tbsp of granulated sugar
Oil for cooking

Instructions:
Add all the dry ingredients in a bowl first, and stir until well mixed. Then add the milk and beat until reached a pancake-like consistency. If more moister is needed, add some water until reached desired consistency.

In a hot pan with oil, pour in enough batter to cover the bottom of the pan. Just like pancakes, flip the pan bati when one side turns golden brown. When your pan bati is ready, place on a plate and cover with a clean kitchen towel.

Traditionally, pan bati is cut in triangle pieces, and is often eaten as a side dish with soup, fried fish or stews. However, it is also casually enjoyed with some butter and cheese on top!❑

CAYA Introduces a Bold New Menu Celebrating Latin Caribbean Flavors



(Oranjestad)—CAYA, one of Aruba's most beloved dining destinations, continues to celebrate the vibrant essence of Latin Caribbean cuisine with an exciting new menu that beautifully balances tradition and innovation.

Nestled in a beautifully restored traditional Aruban Cunucu house, surrounded by lush tropical greenery, CAYA offers guests a dining experience that feels both authentic and contemporary. The restaurant's philosophy is simple yet profound: to create a space where the warmth of island hospitality meets the creativity of modern gastronomy.

The new menu reflects this vision with a series of inspired dishes that showcase the diversity of Caribbean and Latin American flavors. From Cuba to Colombia, and from Aruba to Mexico, each plate tells a story rooted in heritage and reimagined through CAYA's modern lens.

Among the standout new appetizers are the **Tuna al Tamarindo**, featuring thinly sliced tuna sashimi served with tamarind *leche de tigre*, creamy avocado, marinated onions, radishes, cilantro, and crispy tortillas dusted with *tajín*; and the **Beef Stew Croquettes**, a playful nod to Caribbean comfort food, served with truffle and black garlic mayonnaise. Guests can also savor the **Beef and Pork Brochetas**, made with locally smoked bacon, *Madam Jeannette* peppers, local honey, and tenderloin, grilled to perfection and served with *chimichurri espuma*.

The main courses bring equal excitement. Highlights include the **Chilean Sea Bass**, pan fried and served with a smooth carrot and *ají amarillo* sauce, creamy garlic mashed potatoes, grilled paksoi and broccoli, hearts of palm, toasted cashews, and a fragrant lime leaf vinaigrette. Another showstopper is the **Duck and Rice**, a Caribbean interpretation of a Peruvian classic, featuring pan fried duck breast with aromatic green rice infused with local herbs, kombucha, and *ají amarillo*, finished with a pan fried egg and *sarsa criolla*.

Dessert lovers are in for a treat as well. The **Caribbean Black Forest** reimagines the classic with a tropical twist, featuring a rich brownie served with red fruit, coconut mousse, chocolate, and banana rum ice cream. The **Merengon Tropical** delights with sage panna cotta, mango and pineapple compote, mango sorbet, and citrus meringue.

Guests can also enjoy CAYA's new *Sabor Experience*, a limited time three course menu priced at $79, allowing diners to explore an appetizer, main course, and dessert of their choice.

To complete the experience, CAYA hosts live music every Sunday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., setting the perfect backdrop for an evening of island charm and culinary artistry.

CAYA continues to invite locals and visitors alike to experience the heart of Aruba, where Latin Caribbean heritage comes alive in every dish, every note of music, and every heartfelt welcome.❑

Create museum memories with the entire family!

Museums are an integral part of conserving and honoring cultures, and Aruba is no exception. Our Island has a wide selection of various museums for our locals and visitors to see. Take this opportunity to learn about our island and experience a different day beyond the beach. Let us introduce to you to these locations.

Museum of Industry Aruba

The Museum of Industry in located in San Nicolas. This museum presents the history of gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and tourism through elaborated displays and multimedia installations.

The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower and narrates Aruba's industrial history which began in the 19th century. The Water Tower was built in 1939 and consists of three sections: the substructure, the high-rising vertical shaft, and the tank at the top. The Water Tower was purchased by the Monuments fund in 2003 so it could be restored and preserved as one of Aruba's monuments. The Museum of Industry is part of Aruban Museum Foundation (FMA), which is a foundation that maintains, preserves, and protects the Aruban cultural sector, history, and nature. The museum of Industry is open daily from 9 am till 6 pm.

For more information check out their Facebook page: Museum of Industry Aruba.

Archaeological Museum of Aruba

The Archaeological Museum of Aruba is located at Schelpstraat 42 in downtown Oranjestad. The renovated historic Ecury complex in downtown Oranjestad has been transformed from a family home to a modern museum that preserves Aruba's Amerindian cultural heritage. This 21st century museum is especially designed to preserve valuable artifacts dating back to the Pre-Ceramic period of 2500 BC.
In the late 1980's AMA identified its need for an adequate housing for its collection and activities. After studying various options, a project proposal was drawn up, including the acquisition and restoration of historical buildings in downtown Oranjestad.

These historical buildings were formerly the property of the Ecury family. The "Ecury Complex", is a cluster of single and two-story historic buildings, mainly Dutch colonial architecture from the late 19th and 20th century on a plot of approximately 1,700 m2.

In 1997 the Aruban Government bought the complex for the National Archaeological Museum project. In 2004 a financial agreement was signed with the European Development Fund and in 2006 restoration and construction work began on the monumental buildings and the new to build exhibition space. In December 2007 the key to the complex was delivered and the museum's employees moved to the new location.

The final design for the exhibit was completed in November 2007 and the permanent exhibit, financed by the Aruban Government and the Union of Cultural Organizations (UNOCA), opened in July 2009.

At the new location the National Archaeological Museum Aruba uses approximately 500 m2 for its permanent exhibit. This exhibit showcases archaeological objects and conveys modern exhibition techniques information on the origin and culture of the first inhabitants of the island. The new permanent exhibit gives the visitor an insight into the cultures that inhabited the island in Pre-Historical and Early Historical times. The museum regularly hosts public seminars, special exhibitions and workshop for visitors to enjoy.

The museum is open daily from 9 am till 5 pm.

For more information check out the Facebook page National Archaeological Museum Aruba or website: www.manaruba.org

Editor's note: Pictures are property of the respective museums.❑

Aruba's neighborhoods; the meaning behind their names

Just like any other country, Aruba has unique and beautifully named neighborhoods that all form a part of its culture and development. Many of these names have a historical background and meaning that teaches us about the island and its rich culture every day.

With this series, we want to take you on a journey of discovery, where you'll learn not only the beautiful names but the history behind it that gives it life and meaning.

Anabui/Tierra Del Sol

This neighborhood can be seen on Van Raders map and Werbata as Anna Boei. Anna Boei is a name of which there isn't much information about its origin.

The best historians were able to deduce is that this name came to be because of a miscommunication between Van Spengler and the natives who were living on the island. In the Arawak/Taino language one can find the word Anaiboa, which consists of Ana meaning flower or the best and Iboa; the juice of a cassava, which together would mean "the best juice of a cassava".

If one assumes that the actual word heard was Anaboio instead, consisting of Ana meaning the best and Boio (bohio); house, the iteration of Anabui would mean "the best house." This is the origin that has been more or less speculated and assumed for the word Anabui and its meaning.

During the Second World War and later, this area was used as a terrain for training of shooting by militia and later on Korps Mariniers (the marines of Aruba). By the end of the previous century a large part of Anabui was developed to have luxurious villas and a golf course, which lead to it getting the name Tierra Del Sol, Spanish for Land of the Sun. The name is not an official name, but the name of the development project that took place. It is hoped that the original and 'old' name of Anabui is never lost and now it will be remembered by both locals and tourists.

Angochi

This name can be seen on the Werbata map with little and cursive letters. It is the unofficial name for the area given by a tenant to the land that was rented to him.

The biggest probability that historians believe is that it comes from native descent, during the time in the 19th century where Mestizos still lived on Aruba. The name can't really be explain and according to books on its history seems to be more of a sign of corruption.

However, it seems to come from combining A(n), which is a generalizing prefix and Goeiza, which means 'the spirit of a living man'. Angochi remains more of a guess.

This neighborhood's abbreviation is; An.❑

The Bali Restaurant: a touristic hot spot and lost gem on the island

(Oranjestad)—Once located by the yacht dock in front of the Parliament building, the Bali Restaurant was once both a touristic and local hot spot, and nowadays it's considered a forgotten gem on the island.

Known as "the floating restaurant", Bali first opened in 1955 by Willem "Bill" Strijland, who had experience in Javanese cuisine. At the time, the restaurant was pretty exclusive—with space to host only 25 guests. Yet, 4 years later, it was named the best restaurant in the Caribbean by the Caribbean Tourist Association.

The restaurant was probably most iconic for its Javanese-inspired exterior with its pointy, slanted roofs. However, the first version of Bali did not look like that at all but was still considered as one of the most popular restaurants on the island at the time. The restaurant saw three different owners during its existence, during which it underwent various renovations and rebranding.

In 1964, the restaurant was taken over by Karel "Carl" Schmand. Over the years, the restaurant needed constant renovation and repair, mainly due to its vulnerability to leaks and the unstable pillars underneath the foundation. However, the biggest change made to the restaurant happened in the year 1970—still under the ownership of Schmand, when it got its iconic pointy roofs. The restaurant was also expanded to host a total of 85 guests. This was "The New Bali", who had its official (re) opening in 1972.

After 1972, when Ronny Schmand took over, the restaurant saw yet another expansion; this time complete with a long bar and dance floor, where guests enjoyed live music from legendary Aruban musician and composer, Toti Arends.

After 1989, the restaurant was again handed over to other owners, and since then suffered from unstable pillars underneath the foundation, resulting in various leaks and overflowing of water into the restaurant. And as most great things come to an end, so did the survival and maintenance of the Bali Restaurant. However, folks today reminisce its legacy, and it's now considered a lost monument.

Be a part of the conversation: if you or any family member of yours have a memory of the Bali restaurant, whether it be a picture or just a story, share it with us! We would love to see this legendary hot spot through the lens of our visitors!

Source and pictures credit to: "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over de geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.❑

CROSSWORD

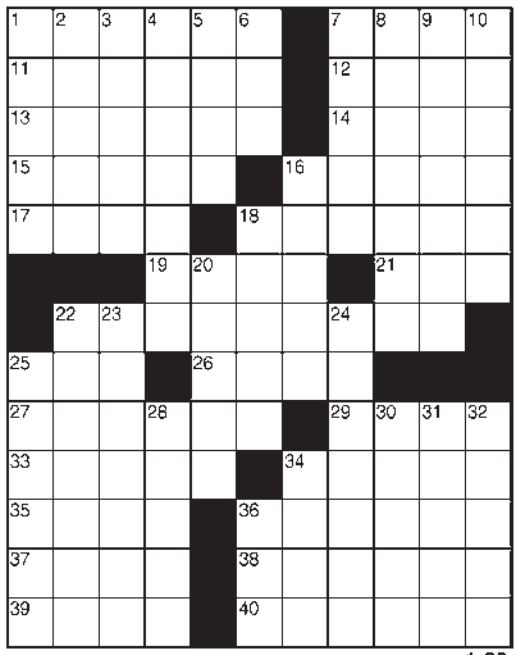
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Holt of NBC News
7 Reached base, in a way
11 Statue setting
12 Big book
13 Tied fast
14 Memo letters
15 Kitchen wear
16 Muralist Rivera
17 Spotted
18 Past and present
19 Bible pronoun
21 Wrath
22 Missouri River port
25 Outlaw
26 Bearing
27 Warring woman
29 Spanish hors d'oeuvre
33 Ancient Mesopotamian region
34 Shade
35 Crocus cousin
36 Old string player
37 Play group
38 Lets up
39 Plops down
40 Tune

DOWN

1 Eastern monks
2 Skip the ceremony
3 Point count
4 Raptors' home
5 Tied up
6 Wine choice
7 Laundry problem
8 Wigs out
9 Mental visions
10 Oust from power
16 Wild card, at times
18 Poison
20 Comic's forte
22 Feudal warrior
23 Bix Beiderbecke standard
24 All things considered
25 Rudiments
28 Lemon rind strips
30 Justice Samuel
31 Struck a stance
32 Pretentious
34 Hexahedron
36 Sudden flight



1-28

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

1-28 CRYPTOQUOTE

K H ' C G N H H N X H A C N N

C A F N H J K L D A L R N H J B L H A

J N B X B G A M H K H B H J A M C B L V

H K F N C . — B C K B L T X A P N X G

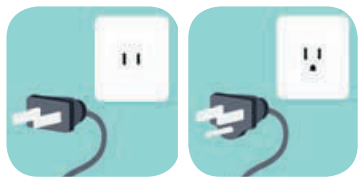
Cryptoquote: GOOD FRIENDS, GOOD BOOKS AND A SLEEPY CONSCIENCE: THIS IS THE IDEAL LIFE. — MARK TWAIN

Cruise ship Schedule: Jan. 13 - 18 2026

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
MON	19	CARIBBEAN PRICNESS	09.00	22.00	C	1
TUE	20	MS RENAISSANCE	09.00	18.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL HORIZON	08.00	22.00	C	1
WED	21	QUEEN VICTORIA	08.00	****	B	1
		ISLAND PRINCESS	08.00	17.00	C	1
		SERENADE OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	I	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
THU	22	*QUEEN VICTORIA - Dept.*	****	17.00	B	-
		MAJESTIC PRINCESS	07.00	16.00	C	1
		CARNIVAL CONQUEST	08.00	17.00	I	1
FRI	23	BRILLIANT LADY	10.00	19.00	B	1
		NORWEGIAN STAR	11.00	20.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

8		3						
	6	7	9	3		1		2
2	4	9	8	5	1			
	3		5		8		7	
			1	6	9	5	4	3
		6	2					1
1	7	5		9	6		2	8
6		2	3					
				1				

Difficulty: ★ 1/19

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Answer to previous puzzle

2	3	8	5	6	9	7	4	1
4	6	5	1	8	7	9	3	2
1	7	9	3	2	4	8	5	6
3	5	7	9	1	2	4	6	8
6	4	2	7	3	8	1	9	5
8	9	1	6	4	5	2	7	3
5	8	4	2	9	3	6	1	7
7	2	6	4	5	1	3	8	9
9	1	3	8	7	6	5	2	4

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 1/18

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Strength training is crucial after menopause. How to make the most of your workouts

Sarah Baldassaro, left, demonstrates a strength-training regimen with her trainer, Hilary Granat, at the Center for Orthopedic Rehab and Exercise on Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026, in Washington.
Associated Press

By LAURA UNGAR
AP Medical Writer

When Sarah Baldassaro turned 50, she took stock of her health and began working with a fitness coach on strength training, a type of exercise that's crucial for women in midlife.

"Now I would say I'm stronger overall than I ever have been at any age," said Baldassaro, 52, of Alexandria, Virginia. "My fitness level is much more like when I was in my early 30s."

Medical experts say strength training keeps bones and muscles healthy after menopause when estrogen loss speeds up a reduction in bone density and contributes to the gradual loss of muscle mass. This type of exercise — which involves working against resistance — also helps women maintain a healthy weight and stay on track with New Year's resolutions about fitness.

"People underestimate how powerful it is," said Dr. Christina DeAngelis, an OB-GYN at Penn State Health.

But what should your workout look like and how do you get started?

Strength training with weights

Physical therapist Hilary Granat said bone and muscle health are intertwined: When muscle pulls on bone during resistance training, it stimulates bone-building cells.

Resistance can come from dumbbells, free weights or machines such as rowers. One example of a strength training exercise is the chest press, which involves lying back on a bench or the ground, pressing weights up from chest level and then lowering them.

It's important to work "close to muscle failure," said Granat, who owns Core Total Wellness in Washington, D.C. "You really have to push yourself."

That means lifting weights that are heavy enough to be challenging and doing somewhere between six and 30 repetitions.

You'll know you're working hard enough if you start slowing down in tempo or speed or can't do another repetition in good form, she said. A good rule of thumb for an exercise like a bicep curl is to lift weights somewhere between 5 pounds (2.3 kilograms) and 20 pounds (9.1 kilograms), with novices starting at the lower end.

Baldassaro has worked her way up to 20 pounds (9.1 kilograms) for some exercises, incorporating techniques she learned from Granat.

She said the health coach has helped her expand her workouts beyond mostly cardio.

While she still does aerobic exercises, "the strength training has really been the difference maker for me," she said.

No weights? No problem

Building up bones and muscles doesn't necessarily require equipment. You can also do pushups, squats, lunges, situps, crunches or planks. Another good exercise is squatting down with your back against a wall.

Even the simple act of getting into and out of a chair can be helpful, DeAngelis said.

"You have to engage your core going from sitting to standing," she said. "That also allows you to work on your coordination and balance."

There's also what Granat calls "impact training" — exercises like walking, hiking, running, jumping, skipping and climbing stairs. On the high-impact end of the spectrum is a "rebound jump," which involves jumping up and down from a step 10 to 30 times.

"We're not talking about jumping hard and fast and a lot," she said, adding that three times a week is enough.

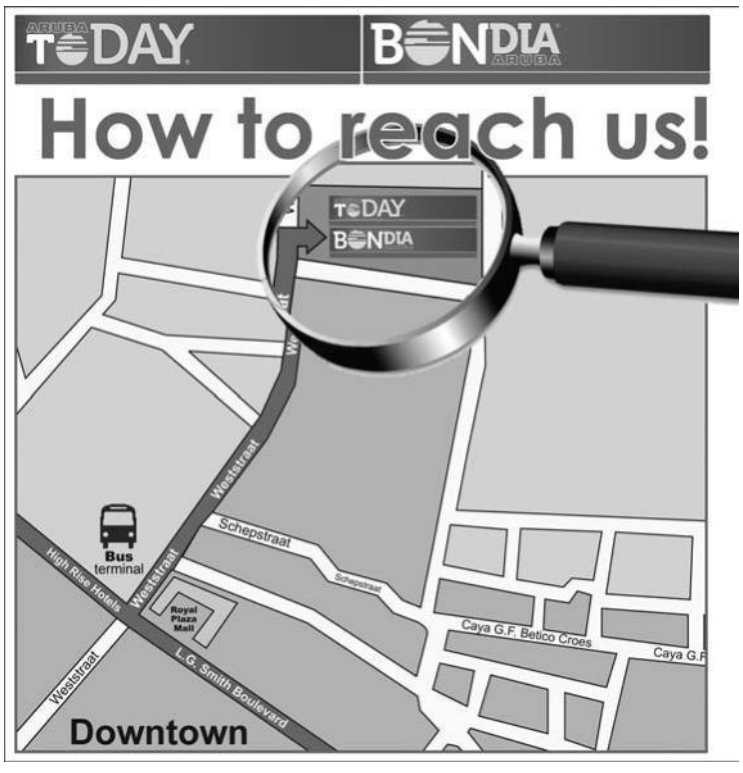
Don't forget about balance

Experts say middle-aged women should also perform balance exercises, which play a crucial role in preventing falls that can break or fracture bones.

These include tai chi, yoga or even standing on one leg while brushing your teeth for around 30 seconds.

All of these exercises are great for younger people too, experts say, especially since bone mass peaks at 25 to 30 years old and slowly begins to lessen around age 40.

After seeing how strength training has improved her life, Baldassaro advises others: "Don't wait. Get started."❑



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DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad
Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas
Imsan 24 hours
Tel.524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:
Sta. Anna: Tel.586 8181
San Nicolas:
Seroe Preto:Tel.584 4833

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

Aruba Food Bank
Tel. 588 0002

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

Ticket prices remain hot for Monday night's Indiana-Miami CFP title game

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Sports Writer

MIAMI (AP) — Ticket prices for Monday night's College Football Playoff national championship game between Indiana and Miami have dropped only slightly from their peaks, with supply obviously low and demand obviously high.

Ticketdata, which tracks resale pricing of tickets across major marketplaces, said the lowest get-in price for the game at Hard Rock Stadium was $3,652 at midday Sunday. That number — based on a two-ticket purchase, including fees — was down about 8% from where it was at midday Saturday.

Many sites still showed some tickets topping $10,000 apiece in the best sections of the lower bowl of the stadium, and some parking passes — no game ticket included — were topping $1,000 online, though a few could be found in remote lots for as little as $100 or so.

Earlier in the week, CFP executive director Rich Clark was asked about how ticket prices at Hard Rock Stadium for the game were topping the secondary-market costs for Taylor Swift shows at the same stadium during her recent world tour.

"It's more expensive than Taylor Swift? We have arrived," Clark said, smiling — and it should be noted that the CFP has nothing to do with setting the secondary market costs. "That's awesome. I will just say that speaks to the excitement of the game."

Miami head coach Mario Cristobal and Indiana head coach Curt Cignetti pose with the trophy after a news conference ahead of the College Football Playoff national championship game between Miami and Indiana, Sunday, Jan. 18, 2026, in Miami. The game will be played on Monday.
Associated Press

Miami went through its allotment with ease, as would be expected — Hard Rock is its home stadium. Season ticket partners for the Hurricanes were all sent emails in recent weeks asking them to stake their claims for tickets to each round of the CFP, and those who responded to those pitches had the best luck in getting their hands on the hottest ticket in college football.

Indiana fans have traveled in droves to the Hoosiers' CFP games at the Rose Bowl and Peach Bowl, and it's clear that the Hoosiers have come to Miami as well.

"I know they'll travel well to this game," Indiana linebacker Isaiah Jones said. "I think it's going to be a statement that it's in Miami, and I think we'll still see a very decent amount of Indiana Hoosiers fans." Hoosiers quarterback Fernando Mendoza, a Miami native, can attest to that.

"Tickets are definitely a problem," the Heisman Trophy winner said, "because there's so many family members that want to come to the game."

No Lucas until 2nd half

Miami will be without defensive back Xavier Lucas for the first half of Monday's College Football Playoff national championship game against Indiana because he was flagged for targeting in the second half of the Fiesta Bowl semifinal earlier this month.

The Hurricanes tried, to no avail, to get the play revisited.

So, on Sunday in the final news conference for both teams before the title matchup, Miami coach Mario Cristobal said he hopes the rule gets amended going forward.

"Lucas was ejected in the fourth quarter of the Fiesta Bowl win over Mississippi. Miami was upset that a targeting call earlier in the game against Ole Miss was overturned after review, saying it felt the plays were extremely similar.

Players flagged for targeting in the first half of a game have to simply sit out the remainder of that contest. Those flagged in the second half are out for the remainder of that game and must sit the first half of the ensuing game as well.

National TV taking notice

The Miami-Indiana game made it to NBC's "Saturday Night Live" and CBS' "Sunday Morning" this weekend.

SNL took a comedic look at Miami alum Michael Irvin's impassioned antics on the Hurricanes sideline, with Kam Patterson portraying Irvin for a segment on "Weekend Update." The bit showed a photo of Irvin screaming toward Miami coach Mario Cristobal; Patterson, as Irvin, said "here's me whispering."❑

United States' Lindsey Vonn celebrates at the finish area of an alpine ski, women's World Cup Super G, in Tarvisio, Italy, Sunday, Jan. 18, 2026.
Associated Press

Lindsey Vonn's consistency is unparalleled in the Olympic ski season with 7 podiums in 8 races

TARVISIO, Italy (AP) — At age 41, Lindsey Vonn's ability to consistently finish on the World Cup speed circuit's podium is unparalleled.

Vonn finished second in a super-G on Sunday that was held amid difficult visibility to claim her seventh podium result in eight races this season.

No other skier has more than three podiums in the speed events — and Vonn's "worst" result this season is fourth. Even Mikaela Shiffrin — who has seven podiums in 14 technical races — hasn't been as consistent across all of her events.

The results make Vonn a clear medal favorite in both downhill and super-G for the Milan Cortina Winter Olympics, which open in less than three weeks.

Vonn was beaten only by Germany's Emma Aicher, who is 19 years younger.

Aicher finished 0.27 seconds ahead of Vonn for her second victory this season, with former Olympic champion Ester Ledecka third, 0.94 behind. "It was tough conditions with the visibility but I'm really happy to be on the podium again," Vonn said. "Of course, I'm close to another win, but it is what it is. I think I'll save the hundredths for Cortina."

Robinson's crash

Alice Robinson, the New Zealand skier who won two giant slaloms and a super-G this season, crashed into the final gate and hit the snow hard. She got right back up and appeared to avoid serious injury but seemed shaken. Fog on the upper section made it difficult for skiers to navigate the Prampero course. Vonn led Aicher at every checkpoint but lost time on the final gates.

It was Aicher's fourth career victory after two downhills and a super-G. She's one of the few skiers on the circuit who competes in all four disciplines.

"I'm happy that I could push through and have no mistakes for once," said Aicher, who was born in Sweden to a Swedish mother and a German father. ❑

At 45, Venus Williams sets record at Australian Open but falls in the 1st round

By JOHN PYE
AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — It took 45 years to be in a position to set a record that has drawn so much attention. So another 14 1/2 minutes serving to keep her Australian Open hopes alive felt like no time at all for Venus Williams.

Ranked No. 576 and playing on a wild-card entry, the seven-time major winner led 4-0 in the third set Sunday before Olga Danilovic rallied to win six straight games — getting the vital break in the extra-long, next-to-last game — for a 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-4 victory.

"It was an amazing journey on the court today," said Williams, who left the stadium with a smile and a wave.

Just by starting the first-round match, Williams became the oldest woman to compete in an Australian Open singles main draw, surpassing the mark set by Japan's Kimiko Date, who was 44 when she lost in the first round in 2015.

"I'm really proud of my effort today because I'm playing better with each match, getting to the places that I want to get to," Williams said. "Right now, I'm just going to have to keep going forward and working on myself and working to control my errors. "Those are things, too, that come with playing extra matches ... all of those things that I'm still learning. It's kind of weird, but it's super exciting to have played that well and to get myself in that position and come very close."

She was 17 when she first made her Australian Open debut in 1998, reaching the quarterfinals. This was her 22nd trip to Melbourne Park, where she lost finals to her sister, Serena, in 2003 and 2017.

Williams was married in December to Andrea Preti and the couple traveled together in Melbourne.

Williams was determined not just to break Date's age record. She wanted to punctuate the occasion with a win that may just set up another match against Coco Gauff.

After splitting the first two sets, Williams went on a roll and dropped just five points across four games, hitting some vintage winners. Then No. 68-ranked Danilovic found range with her big left-handed forehand returns and put Williams back under pressure.

"I told myself before the match I really want to take this moment — playing against Venus Williams is something I can't take for granted," Danilovic said. "At 4-0, I said 'just play.'

"It was such a pleasure playing against such a legend."

At 4-4 in the deciding set, Williams served for 14 minutes and 28 seconds, saving two break points and setting up game points of her own with powerful winners and clutch aces, before she finally succumbed.

"It was such a great game, such a great moment. The energy from the crowd was amazing. That lifted me up so much," Williams said of that penultimate game on her serve. "She played a great game. Also, some luck there, as well. That's just the sport. That's how it works sometimes. But it was an amazing moment."

Danilovic calmly served out, clinching it in 2 hours, 17 minutes when a Williams forehand clipped the net and landed just wide of the line on match point.

Williams entered the Australian Open on a five-match losing streak since the first and only win in her comeback to the tour at Washington last year. Her U.S. Open comeback last August also ended in the first round.

Venus Williams of the U.S. serves to Olga Danilovic of Serbia during their first round match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 18, 2026.
Associated Press

"Yeah, at 4-love I felt good. Also, it's the biggest lead I've had since I've been back," Williams said. "In a lot of ways I'm having to relearn how to do things again, if that makes any sense."

She'll keep that process going in the doubles at Melbourne Park, then she'll think about her schedule for the rest of 2026.❑

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Water's Edge's new menu has a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts all on one menu specially made just for you. From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. Flexible and professional service allows you to enjoy your meal in the cool and elegant indoor dining area, on the sandy, breezy beaches of Eagle Beach or by the open bar outside. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, Water's Edge has it all for you, any time of the day.

Start your day off with a hearty breakfast. Water's Edge offers a variety of delicious breakfast items, including their house specialties of Avocado Toast, Chicken & Waffles made with homemade Belgium waffles and topped with a gorgeous hot honey sauce. If you want something on the sweeter side, try their Crème Brûlée French Toast, served with an in-house mascarpone whip cream and topped with fresh fruit and powdered sugar. Or maybe the Traditional American Breakfast is more to your liking, complete with any kind of serving of eggs, bacon, sausage and toast, served with a side of hash browns.

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Dinner plans are set with Water's Edge mouthwatering dinner menu. Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the delectable Coconut Shrimp. You can also opt for their Water's Edge House Wedge Salad or freshly made Shrimp Louie Salad, made with poached shrimp, tossed in Louie dressing, fresh avocados and vine ripe tomatoes. For something a bit heartier, try their classic French Onion Soup, Lobster Bisque or Crab and Corn Chowder.

Follow your appetizers with your choice of Seafood, Chicken or Pasta dishes. Enjoy their succulent Shrimp and Clam Sauce with Angel Hair Pasta, a nice plate of Chicken Francese or explore the Water's Edge Fish Market—your pick of Mahi Mahi, Snapper, Grouper or Salmon, served with homemade mashed potatoes, sauce of choice and fresh herbs and vegetables.

Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of Steak, including a Petite Filet, French Rack of Lambs or their famous 14oz pan-seared Pork finished with a fantastic apple glaze. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi-glace, mushroom sauce, chimichurri or bacon blue cheese butter. Enjoy it with a side of fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, and four different types of fries. Combine your meal with your personal choice of international and exclusive wines.

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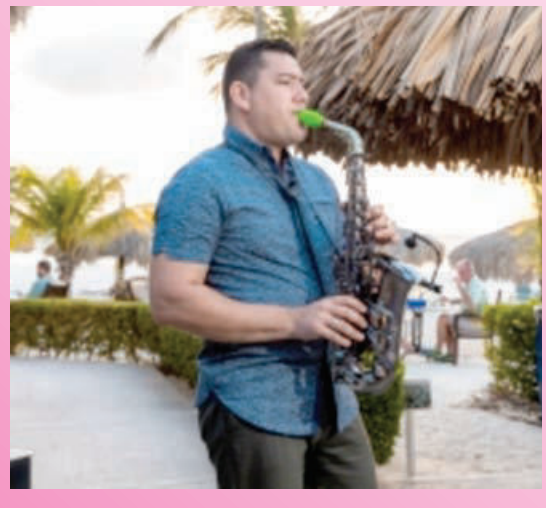

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Water's Edge prides itself on bringing elegance and comfort to your dining experience, offering personalized service fit for everybody's needs.

Water's Edge is open
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To reserve your table please call +297 583 8000 Ext. 8106 or + 297 586 9494 (direct), or reserve your table online at reservations@watersedgearuba.com. For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website watersedgearuba.com ❑